#### EPISODE OUTLINE - HALLOWEEN SHOW (Episode 21)

Principal Characters:

Supporting Characters:

Extras:

Stacy

Matt

3 Children in

Schemer

Tanya

Halloween

Mr. Conductor Billy Twofeather Midge Smoot Barton Winslow costumes

Dan Kara Vickie

SOCIAL THEME:

Facing and dealing with personal fears and dares.

STATION EVENT:

Halloween Party, introducing new characters.

THOMAS EPISODES:

"Ghost Train," and "Thomas, Percy and the

Dragon."

PUPPET SONG:

"Midnight Special"

ACOUIRED FOOTAGE: "Curtain Up"

PICTURE MACHINE SONG: dealing with being afraid

CREATIVE PLAY:

Halloween costumes and party decorations (see

attached for possible options).

BILLY STORY:

Story of Flute.

what about?

RESOLUTION:

Dan learns not to be afraid of showing his fear, and in the process learns to stand up for himself by not having to prove he is fearless by accepting every

dare that comes his way.

STORY OUTLINE: (Possible Opening One): The episode opens with a brief voice over of Matt and Tanya writing a letter to their respective cousins, Dan and Kara, describing Shining Time Station, the returning characters (Stacy, Schemer, Mr. Conductor), the departing character (Harry) and his replacement (Billy Twofeather). Dissolve to station, where Matt and Tanya, Dan, Kara, and Stacy are gathered around the ticket booth. Establish that Dan and Kara are already somewhat familiar with the station (they know Stacy, Schemer, Mr. Conductor and Billy); that it's Halloween day, and that all the characters are engaged in making and arranging decorations for trick-or-treaters. and Dan give reasons for why they want to stay around the station. Dan because he wants to help out Stacy: Kara because she wants to be an engineer like her grandfather, Harry.

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The kids discuss their costumes. Dan hasn't decided on his costume yet, tries out different ideas, but can't seem to get the other kids interested. While Matt, Tanya and Kara are all talking about their costumes and plans for Halloween, Dan begins to feel left out. Matt, Tanya and Kara all leave to work on their costumes.

(Possible Opening Two): Dissolve up on Stacy alone at her desk. When she looks up a scary goblin is facing her, and she lets out a startled scream. Next a witch pops up, and Stacy thinks it's Matt and Tanya, but Matt says, "I'm over here," and Stacy turns to see a ghost behind her. She asks which one is Tanya, and the Goblin turns out to be her. Tanya introduces her cousin Kara (the witch) and explains that Kara wants to be an engineer like - wear their grandfather Harry. Tanya says she's told Kara all about with tool, Mr. Conductor and Shining Time Station. buttons, a miscell

Billy Twofeather walks past to his office, and Stacy explains who he is. She asks Matt if he's seen his cousin Dan, and Matt tells her he hasn't. He mentions that Dan still hasn't found a The kids leave to work on their costumes. costume yet. give more direction

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hetter -Stacy tells him the others have just left. wasn't able to find a costume he liked at the General Store.
Stacy encourages him to be creative and they try out a few ideas

Stacy encourages him to be creative and they try out a few ideas set back & thenk decorations.

(NOTE: These two possible openings are not mutually exclusive, and could be combined)

Dan peeks into Billy's office and is both intrigued and frightened by the sight of Billy putting a flute carved as an animal into his desk drawer. It's not immediately apparent what the mysterious looking flute really is. Billy locks the drawer, and puts the key on a wall hook behind the desk. Haloween

Schemer enters with a load of rotting pumpkins. He intends to this ident with schemer eliters with a sound some sections on the state sell them, and begins spray painting over any rotten sections on the state sell them, and begins spray painting over any rotten sections on the state sell them. the pumpkins. Stacy confronts him about selling rotten merchandise, saying it isn't in the spirit of Halloween. When Schemer asks her what the spirit of Halloween is supposed to be, she does something to scare him. That's the spirit of Halloween!

Puppet commentary on their plans for Halloween.

Which she begins working on the standard of musical standard of mu

Kara returns with her witch costume, which she begins working on. She tells Dan about things that scare her, but Dan won't admit to am not afraid being scared of anything. Trying to change the subject, Dan wonders what's inside the picture machine. They put in a nickel but a feel and see George Pal material, "Curtain Up".

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Mr. Conductor makes a startling entrance: a big rubber spider drops down from the edge of the ticket booth, and Mr. Conductor appears sitting on the spiders back, holding the string that connects it to the ticket booth. Mr. Conductor is in a Halloween In her witch costume, and with his back to him, Mr. Conductor thinks Dan and Kara are Matt and Tanya. When he sees they aren't, he is momentarily frightened. But when he realizes they know him, and once they identify themselves, he's not frightened of them. Mr. Conductor explains he's trick-ortreating around the world, and has just come from France where it is already dark. (Throughout the show Mr. Conductor will is already dark. (Throughout the show, Mr. Conductor will appear in different costumes as he follows the sunset to different - how does he travel countries.) - what does he wear?

This leads into a TTE story: "The Ghost Train."

Mr. Conductor vanishes to go trick-or-treating in another land. Dan claims the TTE story didn't frighten him. Kara dares him to prove he's not afraid by having him play some innocent trick on Stacy, which he does.

Midge Smoot enters. Schemer tries to sell her a pumpkin, which she refuses. Midge instead goes to Stacy and tries to pry some gossip out of her.

Now Kara puts Dan up to another dare: to take the plastic banana off Midge Smoot's fruit laden hat. Dan reluctantly does take the banana and hides it in Schemer's pumpkins.

A scene needed here to establish Billy's relationship with Mr. Conductor. This is basically a lighthearted relationship, where Mr. Conductor is always trying to surprise the stoic, unflappable Billy, by making sudden and strange appearances or sneaking up on him. Billy would refer to him as a "trickster, like the Coyote." Of all the figures in Native American Lore, Coyote is the most widely known.

After Mr. Conductor fails to startle Billy, he disappears. Billy looks around, and a broad smile crosses his face. - weeks to explain why? wenting relationship with andreid

Barton Winslow roars across the back platform on his motorcycle. Plant He marches into the station, introduces himself to Schemer, and explains why he is there: the rotten pumpkins are from his - lake has store--each one has a stamp on them--but he had thrown them out. Now people buying the pumpkins from Schemer are complaining to Barton. Grumbling, Schemer agrees to stop selling them and begins loading the pumpkins back into boxes.

Midge discovers her banana is missing. At that moment Schemer finds the banana among his pumpkins, and to Midge's horror he is about to take a bite out of it. Midge races over, grabs the

banana out of Schemer's hand, and accuses him of taking it.

Schemer claims the kids were behind the missing banana. Stacy defends the kids, making Dan feel even worse. In fact, he is about to tell Stacy that it was his fault, but at the last second he holds back. Schemer exits.

Mr. Conductor materializes on the picture machine and waves Dan over. He drops the nickel in and Dan sees a music video dealing with being afraid. After video he confesses that he's fearful that people won't like him if he admits to being afraid. Mr. Conductor admits that even he's afraid sometimes -- he was afraid of Dan and Kara until he got to know them. Dan can't believe that anyone - especially Mr. Conductor would be afraid of him.

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It's night and kids are coming to the station trick-or-treating. Matt and Tanya arrive with Vickie. Vickie is looking for Mr. Conductor, who she met as a "doll" in the Holiday Special. As she searches the station, Mr. Conductor appears in her bag of candy and helps himself to some. The other kids see him, but he motions them not to say anything. Then he magically fills her bag with candy and vanishes. Vickie is overjoyed and promises to return.

Kara lets the other kids in on Dan's claim of never being afraid. They challenge him to one last dare: to sneak into Billy's office, take the key from the wall, and open his desk drawer.

They wait outside and watch while Dan creeps around the empty office, but when Billy enters the station the other kids run off. Meanwhile, in the office, Dan takes down the key and goes to the drawer--then has second thoughts and goes to put the key back. At that moment Billy enters.

Dan reveals why he is there, and Billy opens the drawer to show Dan that is filled with personal items, including the flute (see attached), which help to establish his character. Dan sees there is nothing to be frightened of. Billy notices that Dan doesn't have a costume, and the two of them decide to make one for him.

Schemer now returns to get the last of his pumpkins. The station is empty, and he puts some money in the jukebox for a song. But the puppets are so busy comparing what they're gotten from trick-or-treating, that they ignore Schemer's nickel. Schemer bangs on the jukebox and a carved pumpkin rolls off and falls on his head. He stumbles and his foot lands in another pumpkin. He staggers out. At that point the puppets begin to play.

PUPPET SONG: "Midnight Special".

Matt, Tanya and Kara return to the station. Dan comes out of Billy's office in a scary costume, and they start to run away--until he identifies himself. They try to dare him into something once again, but this time he refuses.

beat.

Mr. Conductor appears and tells the second TTE story: "Thomas, Percy and the Dragon".

After story Vickie enters, and Mr. Conductor vanishes. They then hear a thumping noise and Schemer enters from the platform, with the pumpkin still on his head. All the kids run out screaming.

Schemer finally yanks the pumpkin off and sets it on the floor. When he looks back at the pumpkin it's lit up. Now he's the one who is frightened, and he runs out of the station.

Mr. Conductor comes out from behind the pumpkin and tips his hat in our direction.

1. HALLOWEEN SHOW - There are a number of creative play activities to do in this show. Here are some suggestions:

#### Costumes:

- Firefighter kids could just wear raincoat and galoshes. Make aluminum foil badge and tape to raincoat, make a paper hat and tape a "#1" onto the front.
- Superhero the kids could make the belt part with aluminum foil folded around waist, they can make an emblem with foil or paper and tape to shirt, make wrist cuffs with foil or paper. The cape can be a towel pinned or tied.
- Deck of cards take two large pieces of cardboard, paint with red or black one of the cards (ie 2 of hearts, 5 of clubs) make the same design on both pieces of card board, attach the boards together with string, make a sandwich board type of construction.

The possibilities go on, the kids can be pirates, bunny rabbits, prince/princesses etc.

#### Party Decorations:

- Since Halloween is in the Fall the kids could trace and cut oak or maple leaves and decorate the Station with them.

Maybe Billy tells them about trees and why they can't just pick the leaves off the trees, they must use the ones that have fallen to the ground etc.

- Since Mr. C. falls into a "trick or treat" bag, one of the activities could be decorating the "trick or treat" bags.
- The kids can make paper chains from loops of paper.
- They can make paper pumpkin faces and color them to put around the station - Or better yet they can draw faces on the pumpkins that will be there - that Schemer eventually steps into.

#### Games:

I also thought that since this was the show where the kids meet each other, they should play some GAMES together to get to know each other. The kids could argue with each other. Also perhaps one of the things that Dan is scared of is putting his face in the water for "Bobbing for Apples".

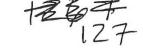
Some theme games are:

- Bobbing for apples.

Charades - this can be simplified down to animal charades, sports charades etc.

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# The Roving Gambler





Gambled down in Washington, and I've gambled over in Spain; And I'm goin' down to Georgia, to gamble my last game.

Hadn't been in Washington for many more days than three, When I fell in love with a pretty little girl, and she fell in love with me.

She took me in her parlor, she cooled me with her fan, She whispered low in her mother's ears, "I love that gambling man."

"Daughter, O dear daughter, how could you treat me so, To leave your dear old mother, and with a gambler go."

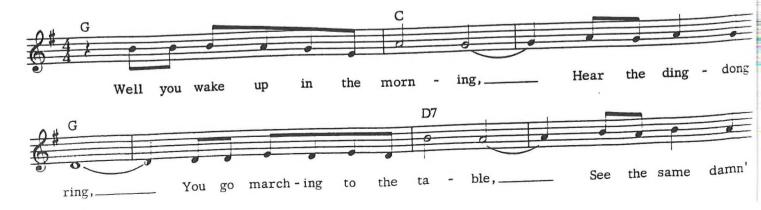
"Wouldn't marry a railroad man and I'll tell you the reason why; I've never seen a railroad man, that wouldn't tell his wife a lie."

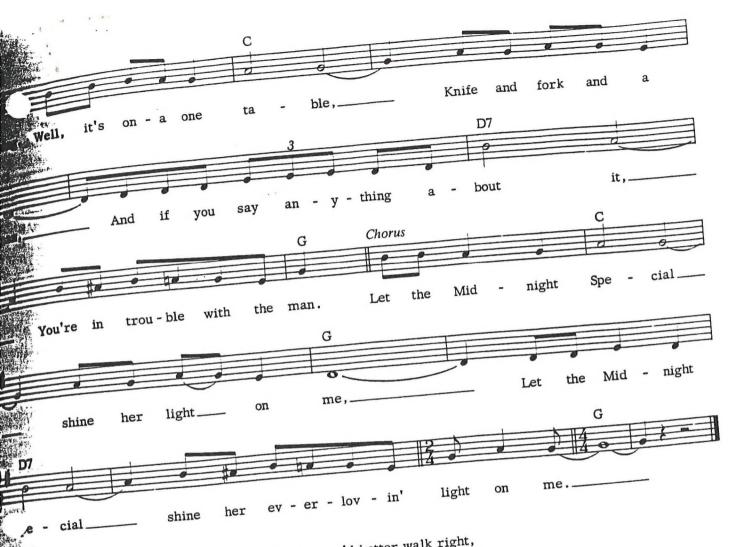
"Wouldn't marry a farmer, he's always in the rain; The man I want to marry, wears a great, big, gold watchchain."

See the train a-comin', she's comin' 'round the curve, A-whistlin' and a-blowin', and a-strainin' ev'ry nerve."

"Mother, O dear mother, I'll tell you if I can; If you ever see me comin' back, I'll be with the gambling man."

# The Midnight Special





If you ever go to Houston, you'd better walk right,
And you better not stagger, and you better not fight.

'Cause the sheriff will arrest you and he'll carry you down,
And you can bet your bottom dollar you're Sugarland bound.

Yonder comes Miss Rosie, tell me how do you know?
I know her by her apron and the dress she wore.
Umbrella on her shoulder, piece of paper in her hand,
Well, I heard her tell the captain, "I want my man."

Lord, Thelma said she loved me, but I believe she told a lie,
'Cause she hasn't been to see me since last July.

She brought me little coffee, she brought me little tea.

She brought me nearly everything but the jail house key.

Well, the biscuits on the table, just as hard as any rock,

If you try to eat them, break a convict's heart.

My sister wrote a letter, my mother wrote a card,

"If you want to come to see us, you'll have to ride the rods."

I'm goin' away to leave you, and my time it ain't long.

The man is gonna call me, and I'm goin' home.

Then I'll be done all my grievin', whoopin', hollerin' and a-cryin';

Then I'll be done all my studyin' 'bout my great long time.

### SHINING TIME STATION

<u>HALLOWEEN</u>

BY

ELLIS WEINER

FIRST DRAFT JUNE 12, 1991 SCENE 1 (MAINSET)

(FADE IN)

(DAY- STACY, SCHEMER, BILLY, MIDGE ARE BUSTLING TO AND FRO. BUT WE HEAR ONLY MATT AND TANYA VOICEOVERS:)

TANYA: (VO)

"Dear Cousin Kara, I can't wait 'til you get here! Shining Time Station Isbusier than ever--"

(CAMERA MOVES IN THROUGH THE BUSTLING GROWNUPS--)

MATT (VO)

"Dear Dan, guess what!"

(TO DISCOVER -- MATT AND TANYA SEATED NEAR SWITCH HOUSE, WRITING LETTERS.)

MATT: (VO)

"Harry was transferred to (TK). So the station has a new maintenance engineer."

(ANGLE ON THE MURAL - BILLY LEANS AGAINST THE WALL)

TANYA: (VO)

His name is Billy TwoFeathers--"

(--SIGNALS "OK" TO SOMEONE--)

TANYA: (CONTD/VO)

"--is a Native American Indian."

(--AND WALKS OUT OF FRAME, REVEALING THE INDIAN IN THE MURAL. SUDDENLY SCHEMER CROSSES IN FRONT OF IT--)

MATT (VO)

"But Schemer is still Schemer-- you know what that means--"

(--PATS THE KIDS ON THE HEAD. BOTH KIDS LOOKS UP AT HIM, AND GIVE A POLITE SMILE. SCHEMER SIGNALS STACY, CROSSING IN FRONT, AND LEAVES TO SPEAK TO HER, THE KIDS RESUME WRITING)

MATT: (VO)

"--and Aunt Stacy is fine.

(STACY REPLIES TO SCHEMER AND MOVES OFF, AS DOES HE.)

MATT: (CONTD/VO)

"And so is--"

TANYA: (VO)

"--know you can't wait to see--"

(BOTH LOOK UP TO THE SWITCH HOUSE, BUT SEE-)

(ANGLE ON: SWITCH HOUSE -- NO ONE)

(RESUME: THE KIDS SHRUG, CONTINUE WRITING)

MATT: (VO)

"--Mr. Conductor."

TANYA: (VO)

"--Mr. Conductor."

(THE LETTERS DISAPPEAR. KIDS LOOK UP, STARTLED, AND SEE-- MR. CONDUCTOR, ABOVE THEM AT THE SWITCH HOUSE, TIPPING HIS HAT. THEY WAVE BACK. THE LETTERS REAPPEAR. THE KIDS SIGN THEM.)

TANYA: (VO)

"See you soon. Love Tanya."

MATT: (VO)

"--when you get here. your cousin, Matt."

(THEY LOOK UP AT MR. C -- AND TWO ENVELOPES SUDDENLY APPEAR. MR. C BOWS GRANDLY.)

(CUT TO: STACY DESK)

(STACY IS DOING PAPERWORK, SINGING TO HERSELF A LA JOHNNY CASH.)

STACY:

"I hear that train a' comin/ Comin; round the bend/ But--"

(GLANCES UP)

OHH!

(SHE SCREAMS AT A SCARY GOBLIN, WHO STANDS THERE MOTIONLESS, STARING AT HER. SHE STRUGGLES TO COLLECT HERSELF, CALMS DOWN, SMILES, TURNS--AND JUMPS AT THE SIGHT OF A WITCH IN FULL REGALIA, STANDING AND STARING. STACY COLLECTS HERSELF -MAYBE SHE EXAGGERATED HER FRIGHT A LITTLE-, AND SMILES.)

STACY:

(VERY KNOWINGLY)

Okay, Tanya.

(TO GOBLIN)

Hello, Matt.

MATT: (OS)

Over here Aunt Stacy.

(SHE TURNS AND LOOKS BEHIND HER, AND SEES-- A GHOST STANDING THERE. CONFUSED. SHE SPINS BACK TO REGARD THE GOBLIN AND WITCH.)

STACY:

At least one of you has to be Tanya. Or is it both--

(THE GOBLIN REMOVES HER MASK--IT'S TANYA.)

TANYA:

Ta-daa!

STACY:

(TO KARA)

Are you ta-daa too?

(THE WITCH REMOVES HER MASK: IT'S KARA.)

KARA:

I'm Kara Cupper. And you're Stacy Jones.

STACY:

Manager of Shining Time Station, at your service.

(MATT JOINS THEM UNDER--)

TANYA:

Kara wants to be an engineer like our Grandpa Harry.

KARA:

I know all about this place.

(BEAT; CONFIDENTIAL)

Tanya even told me about Mr. Conductor!

(ANGLE ON: MAINSET. BILLY WALKS BY TO HIS OFFICE, GOES IN.

KARA: (CONTD)

(WHISPERS TO STACY)

That's Billy TwoFeathers.

STACY:

You're kidding!

(SHE AND TANYA TRADE A SMILE)

STACY: (CONTD)

But we're one ghost short. Matt, have you seen Dan?

MATT:

He's not back yet, Aunt Stacy.

STACY:

Well if he's going trick or treating tonight, he'd better get his costume together. Are yours finished?

(ALL THREE SHAKE THEIR HEADS NO. STACY POINTS TO PLATFORM.)

STACY: (CONTD)

Go!

(THE KIDS HUSTLE OUT TO PLATFORM AND EXIT TURNING RIGHT. STACY JOTS DOWN A FEW THINGS JUST AS--)

(ANGLE ON PLATFORM ENTRANCE - DAN ENTERS FROM LEFT SIDE, GLUM.)

STACY:

Oh, Dan. You just missed the others. How's your costume?

DAN:

I don't know, Aunt Stacy. The general store didn't have anything good.

STACY:

Wonderful!

(OFF HIS LOOK)

That means you have a chance to make your own costume. And that's always better

elimenate

(SHE TAKES HIM TO REAR BENCH, WHERE DECORATIONS ARE PILED UP.)

STACY: (CONTD)

Let's see..

(RE: ORANGE CREPE PAPER)

What can we do with this?

(DAN TAKES IT, WRAPS IT AROUND HIS HEAD AND EYES.)

DAN:

An orange mummy!

STACY:

You might want to be able to see where you're going, though..

(SHE HOLDS UP A CARDBOARD JACK-O-LANTERN IN FRONT OF HIS FACE)

STACY: (CONTD)

Mister Pumpkin Head? No, same problem.

(DAN TAKES TWO PIECES OF BLACK CREPE PAPER AND HOLDS THEM UP TO HIS CHEST IN A "X", LIKE A BANDALIERO.)

DAN:

X-man!

(THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER, SHADE THEIR HEADS, AND LAUGH.)

STACY:

We'll keep trying. Thinking about it
Meanwhile-

(HANDS HIM TAPE)

How'd you like to help me put some of this stuff up around the station?

DAN:

Okay.

(HE TAKES SOME OF THE CARDBOARD FIGURES AND TAPE AND WALKS OFF. SHE SMILES AFTER HIM)

(ANGLE ON WORKSHOP ENTRANCE - DAN IS TAPING A SKELETON TO THE WALL NEAR THE OPEN DOOR. HE HEARS SOMETHING, AND CAUTIOUSLY PEEKS INSIDE THE WORKSHOP...)

(POV DAN - IN THE WORKSHOP. BILLY SITS ADMIRING A CARVED FLUTE. THEN HE PUTS THE FLUTE INTO A DRAWER IN HIS DESK, LICKS IT, AND HANGS THE KEY ON A HOOK BEHIND THE DESK. AS HE TURNS TO DOORWAY--

(RESUME: DAN QUICKLY WITHDRAWS. HE'S A LITTLE SHAKEN. SUDDENLY HE HEARS. ENTERING FROM THE PLATFORM...)

SCHEMER: (OS)

(SINGING)

"Oh what a beau-ti-ful pummmmp-kin, Oh what a beautiful Squash--"

(SCHEMER ENTERS WITH LOAD OF ROTTING PUMPKINS -IN BOX, WHEELBARROW-. AND A CAN OF ORANGE SPRAY PAINT. HE SETS UP AND BEGINS PICKING UP THE PUMPKINS, EXAMINING THEM, AND SPRAY-PAINTING OVER AND BLEMISHES OR ROTTED SPOTS. UNDER--)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

"I've go a beautiful biz-ness-"

(TO HIMSELF)

Hm. Need a rhyme for "squash".. "Come buy my pumpkins/oh gosh."

(AS HE SPRAYS, STACY GOES UP TO HIM.)

STACY:

Schemer? What do you call this?

SCHEMER:

Free enterprise, Miss Jones. Perhaps you've heard of it?

STACY:

These pumpkins are rotten!

SCHEMER:

Only technically.

(DAN WANDERS OVER AND WATCHES AS SCHEMER FINISHES SPRAYING ONE.)

SCHEMER: (CONT)

There. Doesn't that look perfect?

STACY:

Well..as long as you're going to use them for decorations...

#### SCHEMER:

(LAUGHS)

Stacy Jones, you slay me. Decorations? Why yes. I'm going to use them for decorations. I'm going to use them to decorate my wallet! On the inside! With MONEY!

(HE SEES DAN WATCHING SILENTLY, AND HOLDS OUT THE PUMPKIN TO HIM.)

SCHEMER:

Five bucks. Look how orange.

(DAN SHAKES HIS HEAD NO. SCHEMER THINKS, THEN SPRAYS A BIT MORE.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Three fifty.

(DAN SHAKES HEAD NO AGAIN AND STACY COMES BETWEEN HIM AND SCHEMER.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Who's the tightwad?

STACY:

Schemer, this is my nephew, Dan Jones. Dan this is Schemer.

DAN:

You're the guy who likes money, right?

SCHEMER:

Wrong, kid. I'm the guy who LOVES money. I adore Money.

(SPRAYS, HOLDS IT OUT)

Two fifty, rock bottom.

STACY:

Schemer, trying to pass off rotten pumpkins as fresh is dishonest and illegal. And it's against the spirit of Halloween.

SCHEMER:

It's a disguise! I'm spraying a costume on the pumpkin.

(TO DAN)

A buck. And you're killing me.

(DAN SHAKES HEAD NO. SCHEMER LOOKS MIFFED, TURNS TO STACY.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Besides, Miss Jones, I know all about the socalled spirit of Halloween. It means fooling people to sell merchandise. And getting free candy!

(STACY LOOKS TERRIBLY SORRY FOR HIM, SHAKES HER HEAD, WHISPERS.)

STACY:

You poor man. You really don't know any better, do you?

SCHEMER:

Yes. I mean, no...

STACY:

(VERY SOFTLY)

I'll try to explain it to you...

(SHE COMES CLOSE TO HIM)

STACY: (CONTD)

BOO!

SCHEMER:

YAH!

(HE DROPS THE PUMPKIN ON HIS FEET)

STACY:

That's the spirit of Halloween.

(SCHEMER GRUMBLES AS HE BENDS DOWN TO CLEAN UP HIS SHOES AS--DAN LAUGHS)

SCENE 2

(INT: JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE TAKING FIVE)

DIDI:

What I like about Halloween is, you get to be somebody else.

TEX:

Yep. Couple years ago I dressed up and pretended I was Rex.

REX:

And I pretended I was Tex.

DIDI:

Guys, like..why bother?

TITO:

We should play each other's music. Like a musical kind of costume. Didi, you do some jazz, and Boys, you all play some rock and roll.

REX:

'zat mean you're gonna play country-western, Tito?

(BEAT. THE BOY BROTHERS LOOK AT EACH OTHER.)

TEX:

(SHUDDERS)

Ooh, that's a scary, Rex.

thought

REX:

Plumb terifyin', Tex.

SCENE 3 (MAINSET)

(DAN IS HANGING MORE DECORATIONS. KARA ENTERS WITH HER WITCH COSTUME, GOES TO BENCH NEAR HIM, AND WORKS ON IT.)

KARA:

Hi, Dan...Where's your
costume?

DAN:

I don't have one yet.

KARA:

Mine's a witch. It's kind of pretend-scary, I guess..I think truly scary things don't come in costumes. Like thunder...

things that are scary for real

DAN:

Thunder isn't scary.

KARA:

I know thunder isn't anything to be afraid of. But that doesn't mean it isn't scary.

DAN:

It doesn't bother me...

(HE STARTS TO TAPE UP A CARDBOARD BAT; SHE POINTS TO IT.)

KARA:

We once had a real bat in our house. The way they flap around and make that noise?

(SHE MAKES HIGH-PITCHED "E-E-E-E" SOUND)

KARA: (CONTD)

I was really scared..

(OFF HIS SHRUG)

Don't you think ANYTHING is really scary?

DAN:

No.

(HE PUTS THE BAT DOWN AND MOVES AWAY FROM HER TO THE PICTURE MACHINE, SHE FOLLOWS.)

DAN: (CONTD)

I wonder what's in this?

(HE PUTS NICKEL IN. STARTS TURNING, SHE STEPS UP AND BOTH LOOK--)

## SCENE 4

(VT: GEORGE PAL, "CURTAIN UP")

SCENE 5 (MAINSET)

(DAN AND KARA ARE STILL LOOKING AT MACHINE)

(ANGLE ON: TICKET BOOTH)

(SPFX: MR. C DESCENDS ON THE BACK OF A RUBBER SPIDER.)

(HE IS DRESSED AS PAUL REVERE. HE SEES--POV MR, C- KARA AND DAN STILL LOOKING IN MACHINE, RESUME: MR. C - AND THINKS HE KNOWS THEM.)

MR. C:

Tanya Lasagna and Matt the Hat.

(THE KIDS TURN AND LOOK AND REACT--THEY'RE NOT STUNNED -THEY KNOW WHO HE IS- BUT THEY ARE SURPRISED AND HAPPY TO SEE HIM AT LAST.)

KARA:

I know who you are.

DAN:

So do I. You're Mr. Conductor.

(MR. C IS SHOCKED AND FEARFUL.)

MR. C:

No! You're imagining me! I don't really exist!

(HE SHUTS HIS EYES AND STARTS TO DISAPPEAR, BUT--)

KARA:

Wait!

(THE KIDS APPROACH HIM.)

KARA: (CONTD)

Harry is my grandfather, And Tanya is my cousin. She told me all about you. I'm Kara Cupper.

MR. C:

I miss Harry.

The suce he went add hie about where he is

I'm Dan Jones. Stacy is my aunt.

MR. C:

That would make Matt your cousin. This suits my Paul Revere costume, I must say ...

#### (CALLS OUT)

"The cousins are coming! The cousins are coming!

DAN:

Are you going trick of treating around here?

MR. C:

Here, there, and everywhere, Dan. All over the country.

KARA:

So they have Halloween on the Isle of .. what is it called?

MR. C:

The Isle of Sodor. Not exactly. But they do have ghosts. Of a sort. Permit me to explain.

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE) (SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

## SCENE 6

(VT: TTE, "THE GHOST TRAIN")

SCENE 7 (MAINSET)

(MR. C MOUNTS HIS SPIDER AND PULLS ON THE STRING.)

MR. C:

And now, speaking of ghosts, I've got to fly. It's nighttime in Boston, I'm due by and by...

(<u>SPFX</u>: MR.C WAVES THEN PULLS THE STRING, AND VANISHES)

DAN:

Thomas was silly to be afraid. There's no such things as ghosts.

KARA:

Boy, nothing scares you, does it?

(ANGLE ON: DESK)

(STACY EMERGES FROM PLATFORM AND GOES TO DESK, STARTS PAPERWORK)

(RESUME: KIDS, KARA SEES THIS AND WHISPERS TO DAN)

KARA: (CONTD)

Think you con scare Stacy? Go on, I dare you.

(DAN THINKS FOR A SECOND, TAKES THE CARDBOARD BAT, RUNS OUT TOWARD THE PLATFORM--THEN PEEKS INSIDE, SEES STACY IS NOT LOOKING, AND CREEPS AROUND THE PERIPHERY OF THE STATION UNTIL HE'S ON THE SIDE OF WHERE HER DESK IS. HE STARTS WAVING THE BAT, MAKING IT FLAP, AND MAKES THE NOISE KARA DID.)

DAN:

" E-e-e-e..e-e-e-e..."

(STACY SEES THE BAT, JUMPS IN FRIGHT, THEN COLLECTS HERSELF.)

STACY:

Okay, whoever you are. You got me.

(DAN PEEKS HIS HEAD AROUND THE CORNER AND SMILES AT HER. THEN HE WALKS TRIUMPHANTLY OVER TO KARA, HOLDS OUT HIS PALM, AND SHE WORDLESSLY GIVES HIM FIVE.)

(ANGLE ON: ENTRANCE FROM PLATFORM - MIDGE SMOOT AND SCHEMER, EACH ENTER BRISKLY FROM OPPOSITE SIDES.

SCHEMER:

Ah, Midge Smoot--

MIDGE:

Save it, Schemer. I'm here to talk to Stacy.

(HE TAKES HER BY THE ARM AND USHERS HER OVER TO PUMPKINS.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Midge, it's pumpkin time, and I want you to think of Schemer for all your pumpkin needs.

MIDGE:

I don't have pumpkin needs. Schemer. Excuse me.

(SHE HUSTLES OVER TO STACY AT DESK)

MIDGE: (CONTD)

Stacy, dear, have you heard?

STACY:

Heard what, Midge.

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(AS HE DOES SO HE PASSES STACY COMING IN AND GOING TO HER DESK, FOLLOWED BY MIDGE. SCHEMER PAUSES TO LET MIDGE PASS.)

#### SCHEMER:

Excuse me. I'm taking my pumpkins out for some air.

(BILLY SHAKES HIS HEAD AND HEADS BACK TO HIS WORKSHOP.)

(ANGLE ON: TICKET BOOTH)

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS)

(AS BILLY REACHES THE BOOTH. MR. C IS DRESSED AS A SKELETON - BUT IS WEARING HIS CAP.)

MR. C:

(SPOOKILY)

B-i-i-1-1-1-y-y-y...! B-i-i....

BILLY:

Nice outfit, Mr. Coyote.

MR. C:

You're a hard man to scare. But I'll get you next time.

(SPFX: MR.C POPS OUT.)

(BILLY SMILES, SEES DAN AND KARA WATCHING HIM)

DAN:

Why did you call him, Mr. Coyote?

BILLY:

That's our little joke. He's a trickster, like the coyote from Native American stories. Very mischievous. He'll be back.

(HE CROSSES TO WORKSHOP AND GOES IN, EN ROUTE HE PASSES MIDGE, WHO IS HOLDING HER HAT AND FROWNING AT IT.)

MIDGE:

Something's missing..

(ANGLE ON: SCHEMER)

(HE HAS JUST RETURNED, AND SPOTS SOMETHING AMONG THE PUMPKINS.

SCHEMER:

Hey! My lucky day.

(ANGLE ON: AREA)

(DAN AND KARA WATCH, CRINGING, AS SCHEMER REACHES DOWN AND PICKS UP THE BANANA, LOOKS BOTH WAYS, THEN MAKES A GRAND GESTURE AS THOUGH TO PEEL IT, WHEN--)

MIDGE: (OS)

Eeek! Stop!

(MIDGE HURRIES OVER AND GRABS BANANA)

MIDGE:

You don't eat that, Schemer. It's mine!

SCHEMER:

(GRABS IT BACK)

Finder's keepers, Midge.

MIDGE:

(GRABS IT BACK)

No, I mean, from my hat. How dare you steal my banana!

SCHEMER:

I just found it here. If you're looking suspects, start..

(HE SPOTS THE KIDS, POINTS)

.. with them!

(ANGLE ON: AREA)

(STACY JOINS THEM)

STACY:

Schemer, shame on you! Blaming these kids. Pick on somebody your own size.

SCHEMER:

I'm being railroaded here.

(BEAT; CHUCKLES)

Schemer, you wit. Get it? Railroaded?

(HE STOPS, SEES STACY AND MIDGE GLARING AT HIM, AND SHUTS UP. PICKS UP A BOX OF PUMPKINS.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Skip it.

(HE LEAVES TO PLATFORM)

SCENE 8 (ARCADE)

(DAN AND KARA WANDER OVER.)

KARA:

You should have said something!

DAN:

I know, but...Just never mind.

(SHE HEADS OFF TO PLATFORM)

(<u>SPFX</u>: MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS ON PICTURE MACHINE)

MR. C:

Dan? Is something wrong?

DAN:

No...

MR. C:

Splendid. Then you have no need to look at this..

(MR. C HEFTS A COIN AND SHOVES IT IN THE SLOT. DAN HESITATES. THEN STEPS UP.) SCENE 9

(VT: MUSIC VIDEO)

## SCENE 10 (ARCADE)

DAN:

But Mr. Conductor, won't people not like me if they know I'm afraid.

MR. C:

Oh no. Everyone's afraid of something, I was afraid of you and Kara until I got to know you.

DAN:

There's no reason for anyone to be afraid of me.

MR. C:

And yet I was. How silly of me. Well, ta, all--

(SPFX:MR. C POPS OUT)

SCENE 11 (MAINSET)

(NIGHT TIME, THREE KIDS IN COSTUMES HAVE APPEARED AT THE PLATFORM ENTRANCE. STACY IS SEEN DROPPING CANDIES INTO THEIR OUTSTRETCHED AS THEY LEAVE, MATT, TANYA, AND VICKIE APPEAR, ALSO IN COSTUME.)

MATT:

Trick of treat, Aunt Stacy!

STACY:

What and interesting costume. You look just like my nephew Matt.

(VICKIE STARTS LOOKING ANXIOUSLY AROUND THE STATION.)

STACY:

(SOTTO)

Where is he? Is he still here?

TANYA:

Where is who?

VICKIE:

And you didn't tell me!?

(VICKIE HEADS TO PLATFORM.)

VICKIE:

That's okay. I have to go anyway. But I'll be back!

(SHE LEAVES AS OTHERS WAVE, AD LIB "BYE, VICKIE" ETC. SHE LEAVES TO PLATFORM JUST AS DAN ENTERS FROM THE OTHER DIRECTION.)

MATT:

Hey, Dan, where's your costume?

### SCENE 11 (CONTD)

DAN:

I don't have one yet.

MATT:

Aren't you afraid you'll miss trick or treat?

KARA:

Dan's not afraid of anything. He told me. Right?

(DAN NODS, BUT NOT WITH MUCH CONVICTION.)

MATT:

Really?

TANYA:

Everybody's afraid of something.

KARA:

I have an idea. I dare you...

(SHE LOOKS AROUND, AND FIXES ON--KARA'S POV - THE DOOR TO BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

(RESUME - KARA SMILES)

KARA: (CONTD)

I dare you to go into Billy's workshop and take the key off the wall and open his desk. If you can do that without being afraid, then I'll believe you.

(DAN IS FEARFUL, BUT SEES..)

(DAN'S POV- ALL THE KIDS LOOKING AT HIM.)

SCENE 11 (CONTD)

(RESUME: DAN NODS GRIMLY AND HEADS FOR THE WORKSHOP. THE KIDS LOOK AT EACH OTHER, SUDDENLY ANXIOUS.)

SCENE 12 (WORKSHOP)

(DAN SLOWLY OPENS THE DOOR, TERRIFIES OF THE DARK. HE ENTERS, GROPING DESPERATELY FOR A LIGHT SWITCH AS--)

(ANGLE ON: KIDS, THEY WATCH, FASCINATED. SUDDENLY BILLY ENTERS FROM PLATFORM.)

BILLY:

Well well--

(THE KIDS ALL SCREAM, AND RUN OUT THE OTHER SIDE TOWARD PLATFORM. BILLY REACTS, SHRUGS, HEADS FOR WORKSHOP)

(IN WORKSHOP: DAN HOLDS KEY ON HOOK, TAKES IT OFF AND GOES TO DRAWER...AND THEN STOPS, CHANGES HIS MIND, AND REPLACES KEY. HE HAS HIS HAND STILL ON THE KEY WHEN HE HEARS THE DOOR OPEN. HE FREEZES, HAND STILL ON KEY.)

(BILLY ENTERS, REACTS)

BILLY:

Are you looking for something?

DAN:

Um--

(BILLY CROSSES TO HIM AND INDICATES HIS HAND ON THE KEY.)

BILLY:

Is that what you want? Here..

(BILLY TAKES KEY, OPENS DRAWER.)

BILLY: (CONTD)

Take a look.

#### SCENE 12 (CONTD)

DAN:

Oh no, Billy. I mean, the only reason I came in here was the other kids. I mean, they dared me to come in, so I had to.

(HE STARES AT THE FLUTE)

BILLY:

Dared? You can run into some bad trouble taking up people's dares. The secret of dares is, you don't have to do 'em.

DAN:

I was afraid of the dark.

BILLY:

So am I. That's why we have lights.

(TAKES OUT FLUTE)

It's a flute.

(BLOWS A NOTE)

Very special, though. I got it from my father, who got it from his father, on back three, four generations. A man plays this to court the woman he wants to be his wife. Makes up his own special tune..then, when they have babies, the tune becomes the babies' special lullaby.

(DAN TAKES THE FLUTE, HESITATES, AND BLOWS A NOTE. THEY BOTH LAUGH)

BILLY:

But something's wrong here.

That's why the sun wises every days. To chose away the dark en

# SCENE 12 (CONTD)

DAN:

What?

BILLY:

You don't have a costume.

(LOOKS AT FLUTE)

Let's do something about that, okay?

(DAN NODS..)

SCENE 13 (MAINSET)

(NIGHTTIME. SCHEMER ENTERS. THE STATION IS EMPTY, BUT A LIGHT IS ON IN THE WORKSHOP. HE GOES TO THE REMAINING PUMPKINS)

#### SCHEMER:

The pumpkin business, I tell you, it'll break your heart.

(HE GOES TO JUKE BOX)

I need music. To soothe my entrepreneurial soul.

(HE PUTS A COIN IN THE JUKE BOX)

SCENE 14

(INT: JUKE BOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE IN COSTUMES, EACH WITH A BAG OF CANDY)

TITO:

--and three Caramel Wing Nuts.

TEX:

I hear ya, Rex.

DIDI:

I got three Look Out, Stupid bars, one coconut Buzz Saw and one apple.

you breakes

TITO:

Did you say and apple, baby?

ALL AT ONCE:

Ewwwwww!!!

Statutors

SCENE 15 (MAINSET)

(SCHEMER FROWNS AT JUKE BOX.)

SCHEMER:

Hey, let's go! I, Schemer, desire some music!

(HE WAITS, HEARS NOTHING, THEN LEANS OVER TO PEER INTO IT, AND BANGS ON THE BOX. THE BANG DISLODGES A JACK-O-LANTERN FROM THE TOP OF IT, WHICH FALLS ONTO HIS HEAD.)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Hey!

(HE REELS AROUND, AND HIS FOOT LANDS IN ANOTHER PUMPKIN. HE STAGGERS OUT TOWARD PLATFORM, STILL WEARING BOTH PUMPKINS.) SCENE 16 (INT: JUKE BOX)

(THE PUPPETS PICK UP THEIR INSTRUMENTS.)

DIDI:

Okay, let's play.

TITO:

Midnight Special, people. Let's mean it. A-one, two--

(PUPPET SONG: MIDNIGHT SPECIAL)

SCENE 17 (MAINSET)

(ANGLE ON: STATION, MATT, TANYA, AND KARA RETURN IN COSTUME WITH TRICK OR TREAT BAGS.)

KARA:

Wow! We got some great stuff!

TANYA:

Just don't eat it all at once.

(ANGLE ON: WORKSHOP, DAN COMES OUT IN COSTUME --NB: IF POSSIBLE, INSPIRED BY FLUTE--EG, EAGLE?--. HE MAKES A SCARY NOISE AND THE THREE OTHERS STARE, TERRIFIED. THEN--)

KARA:

Run-!!!

(THEY ALL START FOR PLATFORM.)

DAN:

Hey, wait! It's me!

(THEY STOP, SLOWLY RETURN. TANYA GIVES KARA A LOOK.)

TANYA:

"Run," huh?

KARA:

Well you were scared, too.

(TO DAN)

Great costume, Dan. Feel like doing one more dare?

DAN:

Well...

(THINKS, STOPS)

### SCENE 17 (CONTD)

DAN: (CONTD)

Nope. I don't think so. I found out the secret of dares.

(ANGLE ON: SWITCH HOUSE)

(<u>SPFX</u>: MR. C APPEARS IN COWBOY OUTFIT.)

MR. C:

Oh dear, I'm late getting to Dallas. But all this talk of dares and being afraid has reminded me of a story I must tell you. About the time Percy was afraid.

DAN:

Of what, Mr. Conductor?

MR. C:

What else? A dragon!

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

## SCENE 18

(VT: TTE, THOMAS, PERCY, AND THE DRAGON)

SCENE 19 (MAINSET)

DAN:

You mean even trains get afraid?

MR. C:

All creatures do. Anyone who doesn't get afraid must spend his whole life asleep!

(ANGLE ON: PLATFORM)

(VICKIE ENTERS IN COSTUME WITH BAG)

VICKIE:

Hey, guys, how did you do?

MR. C:

Time for me go! I don't want to make it too easy for her...

(SPFX: HE DISAPPEARS)

(VICKIE JOINS THE KIDS)

VICKIE:

I got some great stuff--

(ALL STOP AS THEY HEAR A MUFFLED YELLING AND THUMPING WALK. ALL TURN TO LOOK AT PLATFORM AS SCHEMER STAGGERS ON, THE PUMPKINS STILL ON HIS HEAD AND FOOT. THE KIDS ALL SCREAM AND RUN OUT THE OTHER DIRECTION TO THE PLATFORM. SCHEMER REELS, FINDS HIMSELF, AND FINALLY YANKS THE PUMPKIN OFF HIS HEAD. HE SETS IT ON THE FLOOR.)

#### SCHEMER:

I don't need this.
besides, I'm too
dignified for Halloween,
I don't believe in being
quote, scared, unquote,

SCENE 19 (CONTD)

(HE GLANCES DOWN AT PUMPKIN AND SEES IT IS AGLOW WITH LIGHT. SCHEMER LOOKS TERRIFIED, SCREAMS, AND RUNS OUT TO PLATFORM.

(FROM BEHIND THE PUMPKIN - MR. C EMERGES, LAUGHING. HE WATCHES IN THE DIRECTION WHERE SCHEMER HAS LEFT, THEN TURNS TO CAM AND BOWS, TIPS HIS HAT AND...)

(SPFX: MR.C DISAPPEARS)

CREDITS